

Copyright (Fungi)
White, C. T.

29 JUN. 1921

VOL. II., No. 3.

JULY, 1920.

.. The ..
Queensland Naturalist

Organ of the
Field Naturalists' Club of Queensland.

"The Poetry of Earth is never dead."—KEATS.

The Author of each Article is responsible for the Statements
expressed therein.



CONTENTS:

	PAGE
Foreword	73
Proceedings	74
The Story of a Little Fly	76
Notes on Delias Butterflies	79
Two Interesting Fungi.....	80
A New Fossil Plant	82
Courtship Among Birds	83
Rhopalocera of South Queensland	86
Two Introduced Slugs	87
Wrens of the Brisbane District	87

Queensland Field Naturalists' Club

Official Journal—The Queensland Naturalist.



OFFICE BEARERS, 1920.



President :

Mr. G. H. Barker.

Vice-President :

Mr. A. H. Chisholm.

Acting Honorary Secretary :

Mr. J. C. Smith

(c/o Mr. Murray Fraser, 21 Charlotte Street. 'Phone 860.)

Honorary Treasurer :

Mr. Fred. Barker

(Statistics' Office, Railway Dept.)

Hon. Lanternist :

Mr. W. M. Tanner.

Hon. Librarian :

Miss E. N. Parker.

Committee :

Mr. W. R. Colledge

Mr. H. A. Longman

Mr. P. Franzen

Mr. J. C. Smith

Mr. R. Higgins

Mr. J. Wheeler

Mr. R. Illidge

Mr. C. T. White

Honorary Auditor :

Mr. C. W. Holland.

Honorary Editors "Naturalist" :

Messrs. A. H. Chisholm and C. T. White.



OBJECTS:

To encourage and popularise the Study of Natural History. Visitors are invited to attend Meetings and Excursions, and may obtain Membership on handing their names to the Hon. Secretary.

Subscription: Ordinary Members, 10/- per annum.

Junior Members, under 18 years, 5/- per annum.



MEETINGS:

The Monthly Meetings of the Club are held at No. 15, First Floor, Courier Buildings, Brisbane, on the third Monday of every month.

The Queensland Naturalist.

THE ORGAN OF THE FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB
AND ITS BRANCHES.

VOL. II.

JULY, 1920.

No. 3.

FOREWORD.

To members of the Queensland Field Naturalists' Club, who are aware of the difficulties of the past few years, no apology is needed for the non-appearance of the *Queensland Naturalist* since April of 1917. Nor should it be necessary to tender detailed explanations to other readers; it will be sufficient, perhaps, to assure them that the general activities of the Club have in no wise been neglected, and that it is hoped future circumstances will permit the regular production of this little journal.

That the *Queensland Naturalist* fills a definite niche cannot be doubted. It is the only journal of its kind published in a State which is, from a natural history viewpoint—and particularly in respect of botany, ornithology, and entomology—probably the richest field in the whole of Australia. The right of visitors from the Southern States and from other countries to join in the scientific and semi-scientific exploitation of this field is conceded with cheerfulness, but this does not alter the fact that there is a call to Queenslanders to develop their own aesthetic and kindred resources, and to publish the results in their own State, for the general good.

Members of the Club have already done much valuable work of the kind, both individually and collectively, some of which has been recorded in past issues of the *Naturalist*. In the intervening years excursions have been continued, and the results of these frequent trips have been communicated at meetings. Some of these results have been

29 JUN. 1921

important. For instance, the 1918-19 trip of members to the Macpherson Range was the means of revealing several new plants and, more unusual still, two birds new to science. The latter have since been described in the pages of the *Emu** under the names of *Atrichornis rufescens jacksoni* (Rufous Scrub Bird) and *Pachycephala olivacea macphersonianus* (Northern Olive Whistler). It is hoped later on to obtain further notes from this most interesting locality, and to publish the combined observations of members in a special issue of the *Naturalist*.

The visit in question was of further value in that it led to the Government appointing Mr. E. M. O'Reilly as salaried ranger for the great National Park of the Macpherson Range. With a similar object—the preservation of native fauna and flora—the Club joined with the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union in a successful effort to have better protection afforded the birds and plants of the Bunya Range, which locality was visited by a large party of naturalists in October of 1919. Furthermore, the Club has frequently initiated or joined in movements for the better protection of particular birds and animals, and at time of writing is endeavouring to safeguard the native Opossums, which appear to be in grave danger from the fur trade.

A brief résumé of meetings and excursions follows.

PROCEEDINGS.

(SEPTEMBER, 1917 TO JUNE, 1920.

SEPTEMBER 27, 1917—Wild Flower Show. About £4 collected and handed over to Queensland Patriotic Fund.

FEBRUARY 22, 1918—Annual Meeting. Address by retiring president, Mr. W. R. Colledge: "Notes on *Lophobus brisbanensis*, a new member of the Polyzoa."

EASTER, 1918—Visit to Montville (Blackall Range).

APRIL 25, 1918—Visit to Ipswich. Trip organised by Mr. Henry Tryon. Taken over the Blackheath Colliery by Mr. W. E. Laurie, General Mines Manager. In the afternoon brief visit to City Quarries in search of fossil

*Vol. 19, pp. 258-273.

Gradually the bubble enlarges until it breaks away, carrying the enclosed insect to the surface. Once there it clings to a floating leaf or overhanging blade of grass, and thus reaches its own aerial home.

NOTES ON TWO BUTTERFLIES OF THE GENUS *DELIAS*.

By R. ILLIDGE.

(Read 18th August, 1919.)

Delias nigrina (Fabr).—This is one of our commonest butterflies and an exceedingly pretty species. It is found around Brisbane, almost throughout the year, in more or less abundance. I have bred some hundreds of specimens for the purpose of obtaining varieties, but hitherto without success. There is sometimes a slight variation on the upper side, but inappreciable except on close observation. The male, on the under side, is easily distinguishable from the female by the smaller size of the apical band of yellow spots on the fore wing, and on the hind wing by the attenuation of the red band.

Delias argenthona (Fabr) form *seminigra* (Frühstorfer).—Having again bred a small series of this form of *D. argenthona*, I am now enabled to exhibit them along with specimens of typical *argenthona* of Fabr., which were bred in December, those of *seminigra* having been reared in the last week of June. Thus you now see the true summer and winter forms of this butterfly. In connection with *seminigra* the male is also shown for the first time, Frühstorfer being unacquainted with it. It was also unknown to Waterhouse and Lyell, the authors of *The Butterflies of Australia*, and a few days ago I had the pleasure of presenting males to Mr. Waterhouse. In *D. argenthona*, the summer form, the basal yellow of the hind wing is very broad, as are also the submarginal scarlet spots, whereas in *D. seminigra* the yellow is very much dusted with black; the discal area of black is extensive, and the scarlet spots are much smaller. As regards appearance, I consider the winter insect neater than, though not as showy as, its summer relative.

TWO INTERESTING FUNGI.

By C. T. WHITE, F.L.S., Government Botanist.

No group of fungi possesses more brilliant colouring or shapes more bizarre and at the same time beautiful, than that known as the *Phalloideæ* (Phalloids). Owing to the great variability or, rather, perhaps, what is considered the great variability of the species, the distinctions between many of the named sorts are not at all clear. In a like manner, the genera generally accepted are not in all cases clearly defined, so that intermediates often occur which are difficult to place generically. Thus, the plants we have under review have at different times been placed under the genera *Lysurus*, *Colus* and *Mutinus*.

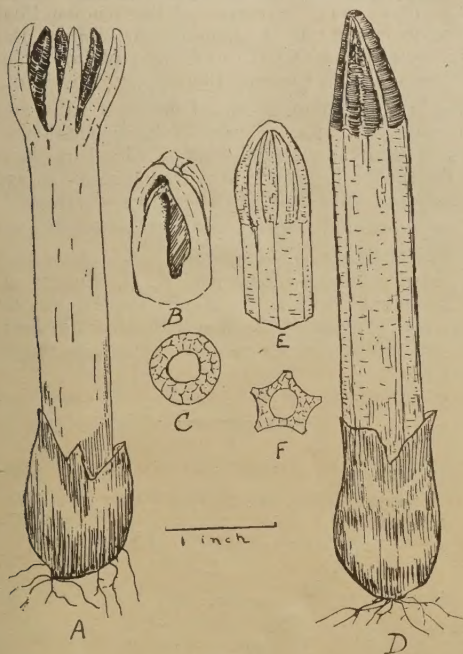
A not uncommon form in Southern Queensland is the species named by the late F. M. Bailey as *Mutinus pentagonus*. This has been united by Cleland and Cheel, the well-known students of Australian mycology, with *L. Gardneri*—a conclusion in which, however, I cannot agree, as the distinctions, in this case at least, between the two plants appear to me very well marked and distinct. But at the same time I think that Bailey's species, by its possession of definite receptacle arms, is undoubtedly a *Lysurus*, and propose the name of *L. pentagonus* for it. The distinctions between the two forms appear to be as follows:—

Stem cylindrical, white, arms free or rarely two united (*L. Gardneri*).

Stem distinctly angled, pink or red arms united at the top (*L. pentagonus*).

Both species have appeared a good deal in literature, the principal references being:—***Lysurus Gardneri*** Berkeley in Hook. Lond. Journ. Bot. V. (1846) 535, Tab. 17, fig. 2; Lloyd. Myc. Notes 31, p. 407, fig. 243 (an excellent series of photographs); "Synopsis of the Known Phalloids" (1909) p. 37 figs. 38 and 38a; Cleland and Cheel, Proc. Roy. Soc. N.S.W. XLIX. (1915) 204 p. 1, 24 fig. b; *L. australiensis* Cooke and Massee in Grevillea XVIII. (1889) 6; Cooke Handb. Aus. Fungi (1892) 216 pl. 4 fig. 102; Saccardo Sylloge Fungorum IX. 264; Cheel Proc. Linn. Soc. XXXVIII. (1913) 398; Lloyd Phalloids of Austr. (1907) p. 14 fig. 13; "Synopsis of the Known Phalloids" (1909) p. 38 fig. 39; Bailey Compreh. Cat. Queens. Plants (1913) p. 745, fig. 808; *L. tenuis* Bailey in Queens. Agric. Journ. XXVII. (1911) 306 (with a text

fig.); *Compreh. Cat. Queens. Plants* p. 745 fig. 809; *Colus Gardneri* Ed. Fischer in *Sacc. Sylloge Fungorum* VII. 21; Petch. in *Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Peradeniya* IV. p. 168, pl. 14 (on excellent photogravure), and vol. V., p. 15.



A—C: *Lysurus Gardneri*. A—Whole plant. B—Receptacle of specimen (unusual), with two of the arms united at the tips (after photograph by Cleland & Cheel. C—Section of the stem.

D—F: *Lysurus pentagonus*. D—Whole plant. E—Receptacle arms cleaned of the gleba, showing how they are all united at the top. F—Section of the stem.

(All reduced to the same scale).

Distribution.—Has been recorded from England, Ceylon, and Australia, and, as these places are geographically so wide apart, intermediate localities no doubt remain to be recorded. It is also probable that, when better understood, more than one species will be found to be included

under *L. Gardneri*, in the wide sense in which this species is now taken. In Australia it is confined, so far as known, to New South Wales and Southern Queensland.

Lysurus pentagonus (Bail.) C. T. White n. comb. *Mutinus pentagonus* Bailey Bot. Bull. Dept. Agric. Brisbane X. (1895) 35 (with a fig.); Lloyd Phalloids of Australia (1907) p. 10 fig. 11; "Synopsis of the Known Phalloids" (1909) p. 30 fig. 28; *M. pentagonus* var. *Hardyi* Bailey in Queens. Agric. Journ. XVI. (1906) 494 pl. 29; *M. Hardyi* Bailey Compreh. Cat. Queens. Plants p. 746 fig. 810.

This, in my opinion, is one of the most valid and well-marked species of the genus. Judging from the large numbers of illustrations published by Lloyd in his various papers, the species in general appearance seems to approach most closely to *L. Mokusin* (Cibot) Fries of Japan.

Distribution.—So far as known, confined to South-Eastern Queensland.

Acknowledgement.—To Prof. A. J. Ewart, of Melbourne, my thanks are due for kindly sending me, on loan, copies of the "*Annals of the Royal Botanic Gardens Peradeniya*," containing Petch's valuable papers on the *Phalloideae of Ceylon*.

A NEW FOSSIL PLANT.

By JOHN SHIRLEY, D.Sc.

Noeggerathiopsis Tryoni.

Fronde simplici, longissima, speciosa, obovato-elongata, lateralibus inaequalibus, longitudinaliter striatis, basi attenuata, 175 x 15-40 m.m.; rhacide valida, lineata; nervis secundariis parallelis, tenerrimis, simplicibus.

Fronde simple, elongated, of graceful outline, obovate—elongate, unequally divided by the mid-rib, longitudinally striate, 175 by 15-40 m.m.; mid-rib strong, grooved; secondary veins parallel with the mid-rib, slender, simple.

Differs from *N. Hislopi* (Feist) and *N. prisca* (Feist) in the possession of a mid-rib, and from *N. media* (Dana) in shape.

Hab.—Petrie's Quarry, near Brisbane. (F.N.C. Excursion, June, 1918).

Some Useful Books

For the Nature Student.

- "A Guide to the Study of Australian Butterflies," by
W. J. Rainbow; illustrated 3/6
- "An Introduction to Study of Botany," with a special
chapter on Australian Natural Orders by A. Dendy
and A. H. S. Lucas; illustrated 5/-
- "The Useful Birds of Southern Australia," with Notes
on Other Birds, by Robert Hall; illustrated .. 2/6
- "First Studies on Insect Life in Australasia," by W.
Gillies; illustrated 1/9
- "An Australian Bird Book," by Dr. J. A. Leach, with
coloured and other illustrations 4/6
- "A Sketch of the Natural History of Australia," by
F. G. Aflato; illustrated 3/6
-

Write for full list of our Natural History Section and
for a Prospectus of the New Book on Birds by Le Souef,
Cayley, Barrett, and others, now in preparation

to

Geo. H. Barker,

NEW AND SECOND-HAND BOOKSELLER,

225 ALBERT STREET, BRISBANE, Q.

